

SENATE BILL 2952  
By Black

AN ACT to name a segment of State Route 174 (Long Hollow Pike) in Sumner County in honor of Bethel Brown, former Sumner County Executive.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor those exemplary public servants who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than Mr. Bethel Brown, former Sumner County Executive and one of the County's finest citizens; and

WHEREAS, few people have touched as many lives as Mr. Brown, a gentleman who has attained excellence both as a public servant and a human being; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, and he worked assiduously to establish a brighter future for the good people of Sumner County throughout his twenty-year tenure as either their County Judge or County Executive; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown shepherded Sumner County through a period of growth and prosperity so strong that during a period in the 1970s the County required the construction of one school per year and the issuance of over \$100 million in revenue bonds; and

WHEREAS, he oversaw the building boom in Sumner County that included the renovation of the old courthouse twice, the construction of a new administration building and juvenile detention center, and the renovation of the jail three times; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is rightly proud of his role in guiding Sumner Regional Medical Center to its position as one of the finest hospitals in the area; and

WHEREAS, utilizing foresight and dedication, Bethel Brown spearheaded numerous civic improvement projects and played an instrumental role in improving the County's already excellent bond rating and retiring the County's debt at an escalated pace; and

WHEREAS, the Sumner County Board of Commissioners has petitioned this body to name a certain segment of State Route 174 (Long Hollow Pike) in honor of Mr. Bethel Brown to permanently commemorate his bountiful life of purpose and commitment; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the segment of State Route 174 (Long Hollow Pike) in Sumner County from such route's intersection with Allen Road to its intersection with Happy Hollow Road is hereby designated the "Bethel Brown Highway" as a lasting tribute to an excellent public servant and even more accomplished human being.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of State Route 174 in Sumner County (Long Hollow Pike) from such route's intersection with Allen Road to its intersection with Happy Hollow Road as the "Bethel Brown Highway".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. The appellation "Bethel Brown Highway" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality, or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 6. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any previously named segment or segments of any highway described in this act as the "Bethel Brown Highway".

SECTION 7. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.